

2006/2007

Trapping Guide



**Protecting
& Managing**
our Future


Manitoba 

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Minister's Message	3	Responsibilities	11
Trapper Boundaries Map	4	Safety Requirements	11
2006-2007 Trapping Season Schedule	5	Mutual Respect	12
2006-2007 Changes	6	Treaty Land Entitlement	12
Future Considerations	6	Furbearer Management	12
General Information	6	Lynx Populations and Seasons	12
Licences and Permits	6	Beaver Management	12
Accidental furbearer Capture Policy	6	Problem Predator Removal Program	13
Trapping and Sharing the Land	6	Trapping and Forestry	13
Sunday Trapping	7	Other Programs	13
Firearm use	7	Furbearer Diseases	13
Furbearer Primeness	7	Trapper Education	14
Trapping Regulations	7	Mandatory Trapper Education	14
Wild Fur Royalties	8	Trapper Responsibilities	14
Fur Dealers	8	Co-operating Organizations	15
Exporting Raw Fur	9	Manitoba Trappers Association	15
Special Permits	9	Fur Institute of Canada	15
COSEWIC	9	Humane Trapping	15
Furbearer Harvests and Values	9	Thompson Fur Table	18
First Nations	11	The Registered Trapline System and the Lineholder	22
The Rights and Responsibilities of		For More Information	24
First Nations People Who Trap in Manitoba	11		

MAPS AND TABLES

Trapping Boundaries Map	4	Implementation Schedule – International Humane Trapping Standards (Canada, Russia and European Union)	16
2006-2007 Trapping Season Schedule	5	Phase 1 - Certified Traps	17
Furbearer Primeness	7	Phase 2 - Certified Traps	18
Schedule of Royalties	8	Phase 3 - Cage and Box Traps	18
Manitoba Trapper Licences Sold	9	Summary of Uses of Leghold Traps and Snare Devices in Manitoba	19
Furbearers Taken by Manitoba Trappers	10	Wihtamákéwin é-isi Apatahki wan'ikana akwa nakwákana ohci	20
Royalty – Total Collected	10	Aaniin Gedaabajichigaadegin Wanii'iganan zhi gwa nagwaaganan	21
Average Auction Value of Manitoba Furbearers	10		
Manitoba Lynx Harvest and Pelt Price	12		

Cover photo - A trapper's harvest is inspected by one of five fur dealers at the Thompson Fur Table. The Fur Table is held annually in December in Thompson, Manitoba. For more information see page 18.

MINISTER'S MESSAGE



During the past year, Manitobans saw several important developments in furbearer management, particularly for young people, trappers and property owners.

As you may be aware, a working group of government, trapper, community and education representatives recently developed the Reconnecting with the Land curricula, which include community studies, trapping, fishing and hunting. The trapping curriculum teaches youth about the important role trapping plays in many Manitoba communities. The trapping curriculum is approved for use in all Manitoba schools and can be tailored for individual communities. It answers concerns raised by some First Nations about the future of their youth and the loss of traditional skills. As a former school teacher, I was pleased to support this education initiative with funding from Manitoba Conservation. Working group members are now looking at ways to support bringing in Elders and experts from the community to further enrich school programs and strengthen youth's connection with the land.

Although late cold weather arrival and reduced marten populations led to low catches this past winter, a dramatic rise in pelt prices was welcome news for many trappers. Beaver pelt prices may even provide the incentive needed to increase the harvest of this species. Beavers cause considerable damage to property and roads in Manitoba. To deal with these problems, Manitoba offers management and financial support to municipalities through the Problem Beaver Management Program.

I am also pleased that the Manitoba Trappers Association administers, on behalf of my department, a program with Manitoba Agriculture Services Corporation to remove problem predators. The program helps producers who have lost livestock to predators such as wolves or coyotes. It uses humane methods to remove problem animals only.

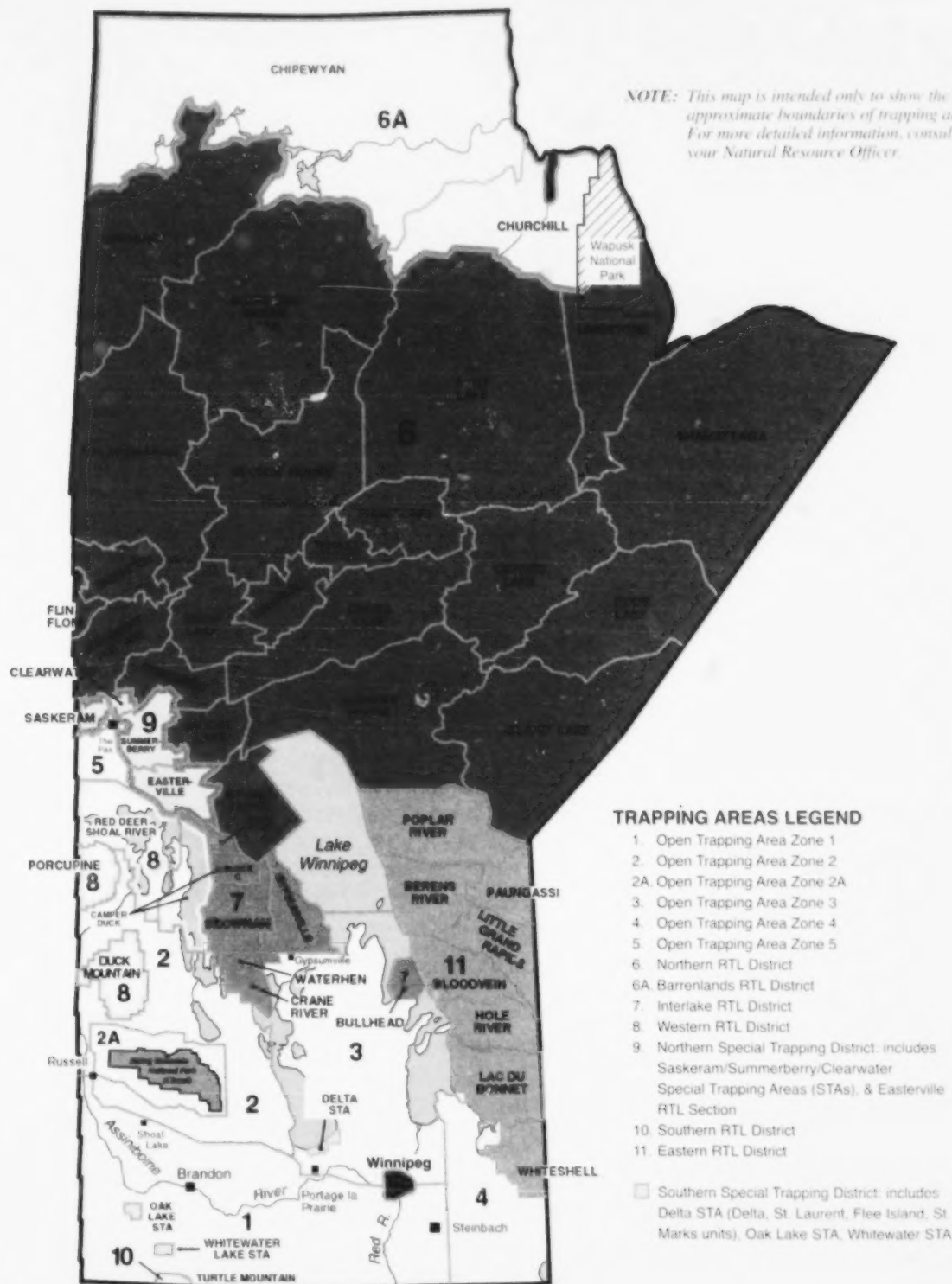
Increasingly, Manitobans are recognizing the importance of furbearer management and the valuable contributions made by trappers in reducing losses to landowners and livestock producers. They are also recognizing that trapping is both culturally important and a source of income for thousands of people in our province. Improved education for youth and financial incentives for trappers bode well for the coming year.

Have a safe, productive trapping season.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stan Struthers".

Stan Struthers,
Conservation Minister

TRAPPING BOUNDARIES MAP



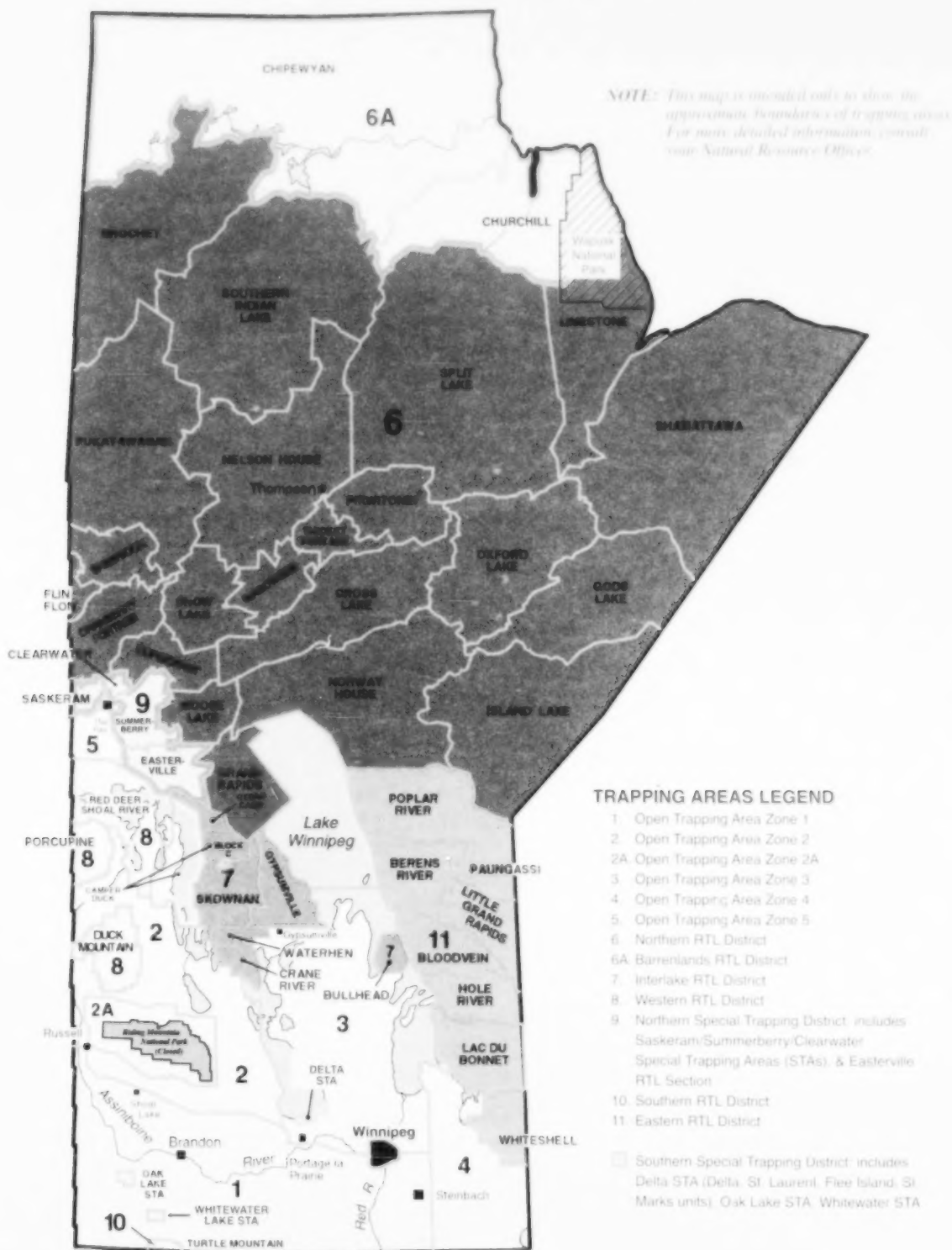
2006-2007 TRAPPING SEASON SCHEDULE

Area/zone numbers below refer to the map legend on the previous page
 OAZ = Open Trapping Area Zone; RTL = Registered Trapline; ST = Special Trapping

		SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG
AQUATIC/SEMI-AQUATIC	BEAVER	Oct. 1, 2006 to May 31, 2007											
	MINK	Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 28, 2007											
	MUSKRAT	Oct. 14, 2006 to May 31, 2007											
	RIVER OTTER	Closed											
		Nov. 1, 2006 to Jan. 31, 2007 (Quota of 2*)											
		Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 28, 2007											
		Nov. 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007											
		Oct. 1, 2006 to May 31, 2007											
		Mar. 15, 2007 to April 30, 2007											
		Oct. 14, 2006 to April 30, 2007											
TERRESTRIAL	BADGER	Nov. 1, 2006 to Jan. 31, 2007											
	BLACK BEAR	Sept. 16, 2006 to Nov. 14, 2006											
		Closed											
		April 1, 2007 to May 31, 2007											
		Sept. 16, 2006 to Nov. 14, 2006											
		Closed											
		April 1, 2007 to May 19, 2007											
	FISHER	Nov. 1, 2006 to Jan. 31, 2007 (Quota of 2* in RTL District 10)											
		Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 28, 2007											
		Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 15, 2007											
	FOX (ARCTIC)	Nov. 15, 2006 to Mar. 31, 2007											
	FOX (RED)	Nov. 15, 2006 to Mar. 31, 2007											
	& COYOTE	Oct. 14, 2006 to Feb. 28, 2007											
	LYNX & BOBCAT	Dec. 1, 2006 to Feb. 28, 2007											
	MARTEN	Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 28, 2007											
		Nov. 1, 2006 to Jan. 31, 2007											
		Nov. 1, 2006 to Jan. 31, 2007 (Quota of 8*)											
		Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 15, 2007											
	RACCOON	Oct. 1, 2006 to April 30, 2007											
		Oct. 14, 2006 to April 30, 2007											
	RED SQUIRREL	Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 15, 2007											
		Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 28, 2007											
	TIMBER WOLF	Oct. 14, 2006 to Feb. 28, 2007											
		Closed											
		Oct. 14, 2006 to Mar. 31, 2007											
	WEASEL	Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 15, 2007											
	(Long & Short-tailed)	Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 28, 2007											
	WOLVERINE	Closed											
		Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 15, 2007											

* Otter, Marten and Fisher: RTL District 10 — pelts must be tagged prior to sale.

TRAPPING BOUNDARIES MAP



2006-2007 TRAPPING SEASON SCHEDULE

Area/zone numbers below refer to the map legend on the previous page
 OAZ = Open Trapping Area Zone; RTL = Registered Trapline; ST = Special Trapping

		SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG
AQUATIC/SEMI-AQUATIC	BEAVER	All Areas			Oct. 1, 2006 to May 31, 2007								
	MINK	RTL Section 6 & 6A			Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 28, 2007								
		All Other Areas			Nov. 1, 2006 to Jan. 31, 2007								
	MUSKRAT	OAZ 1; Northern ST District			Oct. 14, 2006 to May 31, 2007								
		All RTL Districts (except Gypsumville RTL Section & Campeduck Blocks A & B)											
		Gypsumville RTL Section						Mar. 15, 2007 to April 30, 2007					
		Campeduck Blocks A & B											
		OAZ 1-4			Oct. 14, 2006 to April 30, 2007								
		Southern ST Districts, Oak Hillmeck Marsh & Grant's Lake WMAs			Oct. 14, 2006 to April 30, 2007 Special Permit Only								
	RIVER OTTER	OAZ 1			Closed								
TERRESTRIAL		RTL District 10			Nov. 1, 2006 to Jan. 31, 2007 (Quota of 2*)								
		OAZ 2, 2A, 1, 4 & RTL District 8			Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 28, 2007								
		All Other Areas			Nov. 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007								
	BADGER	All Areas			Nov. 1, 2006 to Jan. 31, 2007								
	BLACK BEAR	Northern ST District & RTL Districts 6-8, 11 (except Whiteshell RTL Section)	Sept. 16, 2006 to Nov. 14, 2006		Closed					April 1, 2007 to May 31, 2007			
		Whiteshell RTL Section	Sept. 16, 2006 to Nov. 14, 2006		Closed					April 1, 2007 to May 19, 2007			
		All other areas			Closed								
	FISHER	OAZ 1 & RTL District 10			Nov. 1, 2006 to Jan. 31, 2007 (Quota of 2* in RTL District 10)								
		RTL Districts 6 & 6A			Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 28, 2007								
		All Other Areas			Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 15, 2007								
	FOX (ARCTIC)	RTL District 6 & 6A			Nov. 15, 2006 to Mar. 31, 2007								
		All Other Areas			Closed								
	FOX (RED) & COYOTE	RTL District 6A			Nov. 15, 2006 to Mar. 31, 2007								
		All Other Areas			Oct. 14, 2006 to Feb. 28, 2007								
	LYNX & BOBCAT	All Areas			Dec. 1, 2006 to Feb. 28, 2007								
	MARTEN	RTL Districts 6 & 6A			Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 28, 2007								
		OAZ 1			Nov. 1, 2006 to Jan. 31, 2007								
		RTL District 10			Nov. 1, 2006 to Jan. 31, 2007 (Quota of 8*)								
		All Other Areas			Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 15, 2007								
	RACCOON	OAZ 1			Oct. 1, 2006 to April 30, 2007								
		All Other Areas			Oct. 14, 2006 to April 30, 2007								
	RED SQUIRREL	All Other Areas			Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 15, 2007								
		RTL Districts 6 & 6A			Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 28, 2007								
	TIMBER WOLF	OAZ 1, 2			Oct. 14, 2006 to Feb. 28, 2007								
		OAZ 2A			Closed								
		All Other Areas			Oct. 14, 2006 to Mar. 31, 2007								
	WEASEL (Long & Short-tailed)	All Other Areas			Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 15, 2007								
		RTL Districts 6 & 6A			Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 28, 2007								
	WOLVERINE	OAZ 1-5			Closed								
		All Other Areas			Nov. 1, 2006 to Feb. 15, 2007								

* Otter, Marten and Fisher: RTL District 10 — pelts must be tagged prior to sale.

2006-2007 CHANGES

Youth Trapping Permits

- Are available free of charge if the trapper is 12 to 17 years of age on the
 - a) day of the first common season (October 1 for Beaver) and
 - b) day that the permit is obtained.

This change makes age requirements for this youth permit the same as for youth hunting licences.

Muskrat

- Re-open muskrat season in CamperDuck A and B Registered Trapping Sections from March 15 to April 30
- Increased water levels have improved muskrat habitats

Wolf

- Extend the wolf trapping season in the Western Registered trapping District by one month, to now run October 14 to March 31
- Hunting and trapping season close in this district now on the same day
- Extended season will help reduce the number of predator incidents with livestock operation

Power Snares

- "Power snare" means a snare which is immediately drawn closed by the force exerted by a torsion spring with a leg no less than 30 cm in length or by a lever-and-coil spring system in which the spring is no less than 25 cm in length
- The above definition recognizes the variety of power snares used and minimum sizes for the different springs

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

- Review of licence/permit fees and royalties.
- Requirements to use traps certified as humane (see page 15).
- **Lynx** harvests and population cycles are monitored to determine if and when the trapping season may need to be modified. See page 12 for more information.
- **Policy** review of the "Furbearer Management Policy, 2001."

GENERAL INFORMATION

Licences and Permits

Manitoba trapping licences are available only to residents of Manitoba. (See page 11 for First Nations information). Fees are:

- Registered Trapline (RTL) Permit: \$10.00
- Open Area Licence:¹ \$5.00
- Open Area Licence – Treaty:¹ Free
- Youth Trapping Licence/Permit:^{*} Free

- * Youth trapping permits are available free of charge if the trapper is 12 to 17 years of age on the
 - a) day of the first common season (October 1 for Beaver) and
 - b) day that the permit is obtained.

This change makes age requirements for this youth permit the same as for youth hunting licences.

¹Special Trapping Areas – separate approval must be obtained from the nearest District Office to trap in STAs.

See Mandatory Trapper Education requirements on page 14.

When fur is being shipped, sold or taken to a taxidermist or tanner for mounting or dressing, the following information must be provided: name, address and licence number of the trapper who caught the furbearer, plus the area where the furbearer was taken. Record licence numbers correctly or your fur production will not be credited to you.

Accidental Furbearer Capture Policy

Occasionally, a furbearer will be taken accidentally (outside the open season, for example). The trapper may be allowed to keep and market the animal if a possession permit (cost of \$10) is obtained as soon as possible from Manitoba Conservation. All other accidental captures of the same species by the same trapper must be turned over to the nearest Manitoba Conservation office and will remain the property of the Crown. The exception is black bear; open area trappers are **not** allowed to keep a black bear taken accidentally.

Trapping and Sharing the Land

Trappers share Crown and private lands with other users. It is important that trappers use care to **minimize the potential contact with other users of the land.**

- Trappers who use private lands are encouraged to provide the landowner with a map showing the locations of their traps and the types of traps being used. In this way, the landowner can caution other users of the land about trapping activity and reduce the possibility of injury to other users and domestic animals.

- With the permission of the pasture manager, PFRA/community pastures are generally open to trappers after livestock have been removed.
- When trapping in built-up areas and/or cottage subdivisions, trappers are advised to use extreme caution in selecting the location for sets. **Please remember that people and pets may frequent the area.**

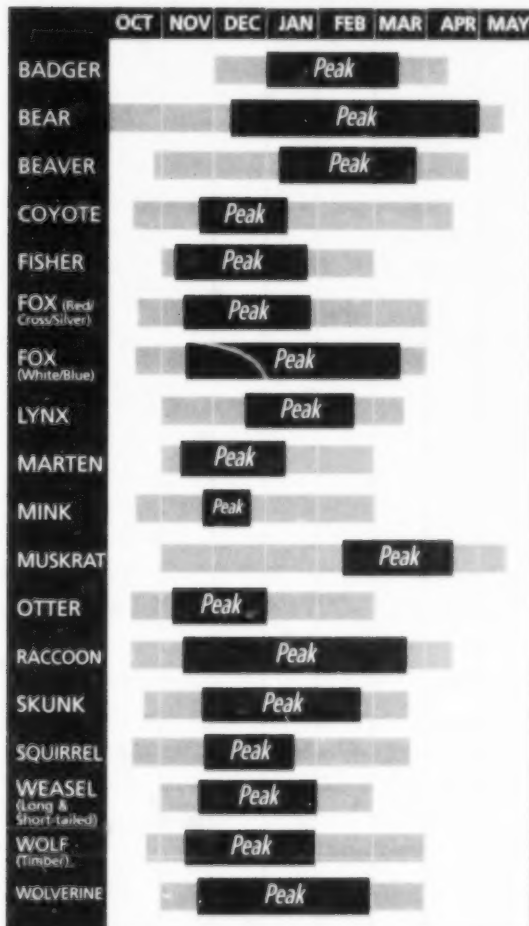
Sunday Trapping

Taking furbearers, timber wolves and black bear is permitted on Sundays, provided:

- the trapper holds a valid trapping licence
- it occurs in an area with a trapping season for that species.

Trappers should also contact municipal officials about by-laws that may affect the discharge of firearms. Several municipalities have such by-laws in place. These by-laws override provincial legislation.

FURBEARER PRIMENESS CHART



UNDER AND OVER PRIME

PEAK PRIME

Some municipalities have by-laws concerning discharge of firearms on Sundays, which override provincial legislation.

Firearm Use

The discharge of firearms is prohibited within 300 m of developed or improved areas in provincial parks, and within some portions of Whiteshell Provincial Park, and apply while trapping. Several municipalities have similar by-laws. Please consult with the Manitoba Conservation District office or local Municipal Office to confirm locations.

FURBEARER PRIMENESS

An important part of setting furbearer seasons is when pelts are prime. In a fully prime pelt both the guard hairs and the under-fur have reached optimum length and density. On the leather side of the pelt, the hair roots have stopped producing pigment and contract, resulting in a skin that is soft, flexible and creamy white. In an un-prime skin, the under-fur and guard hairs are not fully developed and are at low density. The leather is bluish to black as a result of active pigment production in the hair roots.

Furs harvested at prime bring better prices. Trappers should harvest fur when prime in your area.

TRAPPING REGULATIONS

NOTE: This is a summary of regulations which deal with trapping. For more information please consult your local Natural Resource Officer.

No person shall:

- 1 Trap, attempt to trap, possess or sell a furbearing animal without having first obtained a trapper's licence.
- 2 Trap in areas where trapping is not permitted.
- 3 Possess illegally taken furbearers.
- 4 Chase, drive, flush, worry, harass, follow after or search for furbearers from a vehicle. **Note:** The definition of a vehicle is a motor vehicle, trailer, tractor, powerboat, aircraft or any other vehicle drawn, propelled or driven by any means other than human power.
- 5 Remove, disturb, spring or in any way interfere with any trap set out lawfully by any other person for the purpose of taking furbearing animals.
- 6 Shoot a muskrat, beaver or otter except when they are on land or in a trap.
- 7 Ship raw fur out of the province without first paying the royalties and obtaining an export permit. Contact a local Natural Resource Officer for more information.
- 8 Tan or process raw furs without first paying the royalties on the pelts to be tanned.
- 9 Possess poison, including cyanide guns or parts of cyanide guns, for the purpose of taking furbearing animals.

TRAPPING GUIDE

- 10 Spear, break or destroy a muskrat house, beaver lodge or beaver dam without authorization from the Minister of Conservation. A licenced trapper may open a muskrat house in season for the purpose of trapping providing that he closes it so the water entrance does not freeze.
- 11 Use snares for taking furbearing animals and timber wolves in any areas except the Registered Trapline (RTL) Area. Special permits may be issued in exceptional circumstances. This does not include power snares that may be used in the Open Areas to take furbearers and wolves, but not black bears.
- 12 Take black bear on an Open Area trapping licence in Open Areas 1-5. It is permissible to take black bear on either a RTL permit in the RTL Area or on a resident trapping licence in the Northern Special Trapping Area, but only using a firearm.
- 13 Trap or attempt to trap furbearing animals within Game Hunting Area 38, Grants Lake Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Oak Hammock WMA, Birds Hill Provincial Park, Beaudry Provincial Heritage Park or Pembina Valley Provincial Park, except under authority of a special permit issued by the minister or a person designated by the minister. Trapping is prohibited in ecological reserves and most wildlife refuges. Some municipalities may also enact by-laws concerning trapping.
- 14 Trap or attempt to trap furbearers on private land or on posted Crown land without first obtaining permission to do so.
- 15 Hold both a RTL permit and an Open Area trapping licence during the same trapping year, except a landowner who may hold both under certain circumstances.
- 16 Leave trapping devices set after the end of trapping season.
- 17 Trap furbearing animals using traps with teeth or serrated edges or with hooks.
- 18 Trap furbearing animals using leghold traps attached to spring poles.
- 19 Trap furbearing animals using leghold traps set in trees or on poles above ground. The trap used must be a body grip or killing trap.
- 20 Trap furbearing animals using live holding devices unless they are checked at least once every 72 hours.
- 21 Use manual snares set on land unless they are equipped with a locking device or set in such a manner that the noose is prevented from expanding.
- 22 Take black bear using a snare (conventional, foot or power) or any live-capture device.
- 23 Take black bear while the bear is in its den.
- 24 Take a female black bear with cubs.
- 25 Have in possession a live furbearing animal unless specifically authorized by permit.

- 26 Buy and/or sell raw fur except under the authority of a dealer's licence.
- 27 Transfer or use the licence/permit of another person.
- 28 Market the pelt of a marten, fisher or otter taken in the Turtle Mountain Registered Trapline Section unless it has a tag issued by Manitoba Conservation affixed to the pelt.
- 29 Possess, sell, attempt to sell or import the bile or gall bladder of a bear.
- 30 Use an unmodified leghold trap with a jaw spread greater than 23 centimetres (9.06 inches).
- 31 Use a leghold trap to trap beaver, mink, muskrat or river otter unless it is set in such a manner as to restrain and kill the animal under water.
- 32 Use a leghold trap on land to trap badger, beaver, weasels, fisher, marten, mink, muskrat, otter, raccoon, red squirrel or wolverine.
- 33 Use an unmodified leghold restraining trap to trap bobcat, coyote, lynx, timber wolf, or fox.
- 34 Allow any part of the pelt of furbearers, black bears and wolves to be wasted, destroyed, abandoned or allowed to spoil.
- 35 On finding a live furbearer, or wolf in a trapping device, fail to immediately and humanely kill the animal.

Wild Fur Royalties

Royalties must be paid on all wild furs taken and are usually deducted by the fur dealer or auction company where the first transaction occurs.

SCHEDULE OF ROYALTIES

SPECIES	ROYALTY RATE (\$)
Weasel (Long & Short-tailed), Muskrat, Squirrel	0.05
Badger, Beaver, Fox (all),	
Mink, Raccoon	0.50
Otter	0.75
Bear, Coyote, Fisher,	
Lynx/Bobcat, Marten, Wolf	1.00
Wolverine	2.50

Fur Dealers

It is essential to furbearer management programs that fur dealers continue to regularly submit reports. The dealer reports are monitored and compliance audits will continue.

The *Fur Dealers, Tanners and Taxidermists Regulation*, Manitoba Regulation 33/88 R, states in part:

- * Each fur dealer shall immediately make an entry or record, on appropriate forms of every trade, purchase, sale, import or export made by him or her of any animal parts and each entry shall

show the date of trade, purchase or sale, import or export, the name and address of the person from whom the animal parts were obtained or to whom they were traded, sold or otherwise disposed of, the type of licence held by that person and the number of the licence.

- Each fur dealer shall submit, on or before the 10th day of each month, a return, of each trade, purchase, sale, import or export of animal parts by the dealer the preceding month; and the address and licence number of the person from whom the animal parts were obtained. This includes a NIL report where there have been no transactions.

Exporting Raw Fur

A provincial export permit (\$20.00 per permit) is required before shipping or moving raw furbearing animal pelts from Manitoba to other provinces or countries. Provincial export permits are available from your nearest Manitoba Conservation office.

A CITES (Convention on the International Trade of Endangered Species) permit is also required to take bobcat, black bear, lynx, river otter and timber wolf across international borders. CITES permits, (\$10.00 per permit), are available at 200 Saulteaux Cres., Winnipeg, MB, R3J 3W3, or by calling (204) 945-1893. Arrangements for CITES permits may also be made through your nearest Manitoba Conservation office.

A CITES permit is needed to take certain species at risk or their look-alikes (for example, lynx and bobcat respectively) across international borders. Although there may be many animals of one type in Canada, such as timber wolf and otter, there may not be many in the rest of the world. In addition, black bears are included because trade in bear galls has depleted bear populations over most of the rest of the world.

Special Permits

A Natural Resource Officer may issue special permits to harvest furbearing wildlife to manage numbers and protect property outside of the normal trapping regulations and seasons. Certain conditions may be attached to the special permit, such as type of device to be used, disposal of pelts, number of animals to be taken, specific location etc.

FURBEARER HARVESTS AND VALUES

Trapping is a business operation because a product (fur) is sold. Good record-keeping is important for any business, but with trapline management, it is also important should the trapper want to apply for a registered trapline. Applications are assessed on numerous criteria including a trapper's annual harvest or production. Trappers should keep records and receipts for all pelts sold to verify their harvests. Ideally, pelts should be sold in the year that they were caught and under the trapper's own licence or permit.

Fur marketing options:

- Pelts may be sold to a licenced fur dealer.
- Pelts may be consigned to a fur auction company.
- Pelts may be sold to a fur dealer or consigned to an auction company at fur tables held in Northern Manitoba.
- Pelts may be sold privately; however trappers must provide buyers with their name and licence number and must pay the royalty at a Manitoba Conservation office prior to sale.
- Pelts may be commercially tanned and resold; however, the royalty must first be paid. Usually the tanning establishment will pay the royalty and add it to their price.

Properly preparing furs results in a higher return.

MANITOBA TRAPPER LICENCES ISSUED

	2001/ 2002	2002/ 2003	2003/ 2004	2004/ 2005	2005/ 2006*
Open Area (OA)	4,958	5,503	5,804	5,174	5,147
Registered (RTL)	1,764	1,668	1,708	1,706	1,493
Total	6,722	7,171	7,512	6,797	6,640
Treaty OA**	144	137	123	105	73
Youth OA**	52	81	98	96	94
Youth Treaty**	1			1	
Youth RTL**	41	36	49	63	81

* As of June, 2006

** These numbers are included in the above totals

TRAPPING GUIDE

FURBEARERS TAKEN BY MANITOBA TRAPPERS

Production	5 year averages				
	1989/ 1993	1994/ 1998	1999/ 2003	2004/ 2005	2005/ 2006*
Badger	90	162	146	125	101
Bear	n/a	28	63	56	n/a
Beaver	17,949	30,962	21,901	17,551	12,777
Bobcat	n/a	n/a	18	19	5
Coyote	3,507	2,404	5,397	7,931	6,012
Fisher	2,481	2,100	1,836	1,339	1,278
Fox Red/Cross/ Silver	4,644	2,557	2,140	2,549	1,780
Fox White/Blue	311	723	100	514	17
Lynx	390	148	698	1,006	637
Marten	8,565	17,509	20,111	27,664	14,267
Mink	6,756	6,031	4,713	2,803	1,929
Muskrat	23,475	76,121	25,042	8,207	14,702
Otter	1,276	1,904	2,403	1,664	1,424
Raccoon	978	2,813	2,419	2,646	1,339
Squirrel	5,075	9,613	4,683	2,874	2,930
Weasel (Long & Short-tailed)	2,112	2,941	2,838	1,898	2,937
Wolf	265	264	264	330	218
Wolverine	51	48	38	47	25

* As of April 2006

AVERAGE AUCTION VALUE OF MANITOBA FURBEARERS

SPECIES	5 year averages				
	1989/ 1993	1994/ 1998	1999/ 2003	2004/ 2005	2005/ 2006*
Badger	\$15.38	\$22.46	\$41.39	\$35.00	18.93
Bear	75.70	77.84	120.44	59.29	86.25
Beaver	18.91	31.48	23.86	25.41	28.87
Bobcat	n/a	n/a	161.61	97.33	148.41
Coyote	32.85	32.20	40.68	34.04	39.32
Fisher	51.22	47.76	34.94	44.81	68.54
Fox Red/Cross/ Silver	14.18	23.45	28.26	24.71	26.20
Fox White/Blue	14.52	25.42	21.90	21.35	16.64
Lynx	98.90	92.86	114.43	151.81	151.93
Marten	58.87	48.88	48.05	58.40	83.55
Mink	31.84	22.17	17.89	21.30	23.56
Muskrat	1.99	3.50	2.69	2.28	5.68
Otter	59.84	72.20	128.83	152.52	160.24
Raccoon	8.70	19.37	15.75	12.17	12.43
Squirrel	1.16	1.30	1.13	0.97	1.38
Weasel (Long & Short-tailed)	3.99	3.67	3.76	3.25	6.82
Wolf	120.65	111.00	106.65	116.83	133.00
Wolverine	184.74	221.85	226.18	177.48	200.66

* Preliminary as of May 2006

ROYALTY - TOTAL COLLECTED

2001/ 2002	2002/ 2003	2003/ 2004	2004/ 2005	2005/ 2006*
\$44,948	\$49,983	\$51,108	\$54,494	\$33,954

* As of April 2006

FIRST NATIONS

The Rights and Responsibilities of First Nations People Who Trap in Manitoba

The Natural Resources Transfer Agreement (1930), which forms part of *The Constitution Act* (1982), provides that First Nations people have the right to trap for food:

- at all seasons of the year on all unoccupied Crown lands
- on any other lands to which they may have the right of access

Recognizing the Treaty and Constitutional rights of First Nations people, Manitoba Conservation recognizes that status Indian people, when trapping for food or traditional ceremonial purposes on lands where they have a right of access:

- do not require licences
- are not restricted to specific seasons
- are not restricted to limits unless there restrictions that are intended for conservation purposes
- may share the meat and fur with non-status family members living in the same residence
- are not subject to equipment restrictions including those as specified under EU Regulation #3254/91 or more commonly known as the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards

First Nations people generally have the right of access to trap for food or traditional ceremonial purposes within:

- Indian reserves, Wildlife Management Areas, Provincial Forests, areas of Provincial Parks where licensed trapping is permitted, unoccupied Crown lands, and other Crown lands where licensed hunting or trapping is permitted
- private land with the permission of the landowner or occupant
- federal land, such as PFRA/community pastures and CFB Shilo, when such lands are opened to the public for trapping, or with the permission of the Pasture Manager or Base Commander

No person (status or non-status) may trap within:

- Riding Mountain National Park, Birds Hill Provincial Park, Beaudry Provincial Heritage Park or Pembina Valley Provincial Park
- areas of Provincial Parks closed to all hunting or trapping
- Wildlife Refuges and most Ecological Reserves
- areas closed to all persons for specific conservation purposes

Responsibilities

With these rights come responsibilities such as conservation and safety requirements. All First Nations trappers have a responsibility to ensure that their actions in taking furbearers do not reduce the sustainability of furbearer populations.

The rights of status Indian people are subject to conservation measures and other restrictions that do not unduly infringe on food harvesting. **First Nation trappers may not:**

- trap protected furbearers for which trapping is prohibited such as wolverine in the open trapping areas of Manitoba
- waste or abandon furbearers
- sell, trade or give away the meat, fur or any other part of furbearers taken under status Indian trapping rights, except that food may be given to another First Nations person
- sell the pelt of a furbearer unless it was caught under the authority of a Trappers Licence and all trapping regulations were followed

Safety Requirements

Many safety restrictions contained in resource management legislation apply to all trappers in Manitoba, including First Nations trappers. **No trapper may:**

- use trapping methods that are careless, unsafe or dangerous to any person
- discharge a rifle or shotgun at night (the period beginning at 1/2 hour after sunset and ending at 1/2 hour before sunrise the following day)
- hunt from a provincial road or provincial trunk highway or discharge a bow or firearm from such a road or highway, or shoot along or across such a road or highway (including the road allowance) for the purpose of taking a furbearer
- discharge a centrefire rifle, muzzle-loading firearm or shotgun using a slug from a public road within a municipality or local government district, or shoot along or across such a road
- carry a loaded firearm in a vehicle or discharge a firearm from a vehicle

It is also recommended that all trappers:

- wear hunter orange clothes when trapping during the time of year when there are big game hunters in the same area or where there may be other people using the same area for other purposes
- take a Manitoba Trapper Education course

TRAPPING GUIDE

Mutual Respect

There are many resource users on the land who are carrying on their traditions. Commercial and other licensed users of wildlife need to understand and respect the constitutionally protected rights of First Nations people. It is equally important for First Nations people to understand and respect the value that other users place on natural resources and their ability to participate in trapping for their purposes under a licence. All users need to work co-operatively towards building a stronger relationship if Manitoba's trapping and hunting heritage is to be preserved.

First Nations trappers are encouraged to carry the federally issued Certificate of Indian Status to help Natural Resource Officers determine that they are entitled to exercise the right to trap for food and ceremonial purposes.

For more detailed information, please contact the nearest Manitoba Conservation office. Telephone 945-6784 within Winnipeg, 1-800-214-6497 from outside Winnipeg or visit the Conservation website at: www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/firstnations/

Treaty Land Entitlement

Manitoba Conservation is currently working with some First Nations to provide Crown land to fulfill outstanding treaty land entitlement (TLE). Many First Nations have, or are in the process of selecting, lands to fulfill their entitlements and some selections may have an impact on some traplines and trapping activity. The lands selected are eligible to become reserve land under the terms of the TLE Framework Agreement. Once the selected lands are confirmed, the First Nation may request an Exclusive Use Permit (EUP) from the Crown Lands Branch of Manitoba Conservation. Once the EUP is issued, First Nations then have the authority to exclude all current and future uses of the permitted land, including trapping activities.

FURBEARER MANAGEMENT

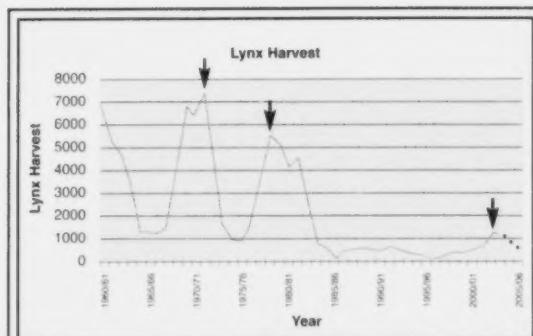
Lynx Populations and Seasons

Lynx numbers cycle up and down about every ten years. However, in the 1980's, the peak part of the cycle did not occur in Manitoba and other provinces (see graph next column). At the time, pelt prices were extremely high. Overharvest, particularly of adult females during the low parts of the cycle, was likely one reason. The lynx cycle has still not fully recovered. To help the recovery, lynx seasons were closed in the mid-1980's and mid-1990's.

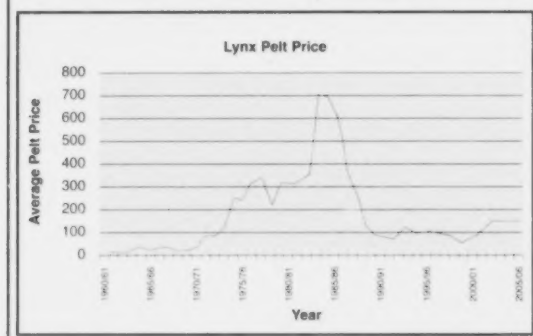
Manitoba will continue to watch lynx populations closely. If concern still exists, then another season closure will be considered.

Beaver Management

The beaver is one of Manitoba's most important furbearers. In the early 1900s, beaver almost became extinct because of overharvest



Manitoba lynx harvest. Arrows show peaks in the population cycle.



and disease. However, strict conservation measures and the introduction of the registered trapline system during the mid-1940s were successful in rebuilding the population.

The number of beaver harvested by trappers is directly related to the average market value of beaver pelts on the fur markets. Recent harvests have ranged from a low of 12,000 in 1990/91 (average pelt value of \$14) to a high of 68,000 in 1979/80 (average pelt value of \$40). During successive years of low prices, trapping pressure is reduced and the beaver population grows relatively uninhibited until they become a major problem causing millions of dollars damage to private property, transportation routes and farmland. Most problems occur in rural municipalities adjacent to the Duck Mountain Provincial Park and Riding Mountain National Park and, more recently, in the southeastern part of the province where abnormal amounts of precipitation have occurred.

To assist rural municipalities and Northern Affairs communities with beaver related problems, Manitoba Conservation introduced the Problem Beaver Removal Program in 1993. Approximately 6,000 problem beaver are removed annually. However, the impact of this program has been minimal because low pelt prices reduced the trapping effort during the licenced season. Consequently, the beaver population continued to grow.

In 2001/02, Manitoba Conservation introduced a second part to the program, the Winter Beaver Subsidy Program. This program was intended to encourage trappers to remove beaver from chronic problem areas and registered trapline districts adjacent to

municipalities that are affected by beaver migrating out from the registered trappings.

In 2006, the Summer component will run from June 1 to September 30. The Winter component will begin the next day, October 1 and run until March 26, 2007. No break will occur this fall between the two components.

Beaver management in Manitoba will also incorporate the use of pond levelers. These devices are placed under roads or dams to discourage beavers from blocking the flow of water.

Trappers who are interested in participating in these programs should contact their local municipality or nearest Manitoba Conservation office to obtain guidelines.

Problem Predator Removal Program

The Manitoba Trappers Association entered into an agreement with Manitoba to administer and deliver a problem predator removal program to reduce livestock losses for 2006. Last year, these losses amounted to over \$345,000 in livestock being destroyed by predators.

The \$40,000 predator management initiative was developed in response to reports from the Manitoba Cattle Producers Association (MCPA) and other livestock producers regarding losses of sheep and cattle, primarily to coyotes.

Producers experiencing predator losses must report the incidents to the nearest Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC) office. A claim number will be assigned, allowing the producer to contact the Manitoba Trappers Association to have a qualified trapper referred to deal with the particular problem predator. Only humane trapping methods will be permitted and only predators causing the problem will be removed. Landowners must sign a landowner agreement and liability release form before trappers enter onto the property to remove offending predators.

As part of the agreement, the association in conjunction with Manitoba Conservation will provide workshops in chronic problem areas for local trappers and producers on humane methods to remove problem predators such as wolves and coyotes. For more information on the program please contact the Manitoba Trappers Association at 1-204-345-9107.

Trapping and Forestry

Crown lands in Manitoba are managed using the principles of multiple use. Two of the many uses include furbearer and forest management. Both activities are important to the regional and provincial economies, and when properly managed, can co-exist and be mutually beneficial. For example, certain roads constructed for cutting areas can also be used by trappers. The key to co-existence is communication between all users of the land.

Forest Management Licence (FML) holders conduct the majority of

timber harvesting in Manitoba. FML holders hold annual open houses to meet directly with other users of the land to make them aware of what activities are taking place. Trappers are encouraged to attend these open houses and speak directly to the forestry representative.

Local fur council meetings can be one way to meet with forestry companies. It is also important for everyone involved in these discussions to keep in touch throughout the year.

Other Programs

- Manitoba Conservation, the Riding Mountain Region Liaison Committee, and the Manitoba Trappers Association co-operated on a seminar for officials and two workshops for trappers. Options for problem beaver control in Western Manitoba were discussed.
- Manitoba Conservation and the Manitoba Trappers Association continued to partner on trapper education programs, with over 280 students passing the mandatory trapper education exam in 2005/06.
- Manitoba Conservation continued to review the Furbearer Management Policy with staff and the stakeholders, including the Manitoba Trappers Association.

Over the next year, Manitoba Conservation will:

- Meet with more local fur councils and communities to review the "Furbearer Management Policy, 2001."
- Partner with the Manitoba Trappers Association to update the Trapper Education manual.
- Work with communities to develop alternate land-based outdoor education programs for use in their own schools.
- Review problem beaver removal programs.
- Work with the Fur Institute of Canada and the other provinces and territories to harmonize implementation of the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards in 2007.

FURBEARER DISEASES

Furbearers may carry parasites and diseases such as rabies, tularemia, hantavirus and giardia (commonly known as beaver fever) that can be transmitted to humans. Trappers should take precautions, including immunizations against rabies. Please consult your family doctor or public health unit about immunization against rabies.

When animals suspected of being diseased are encountered, they should only be handled with good quality rubber gloves, sealed in strong plastic bags and taken to a Manitoba Conservation office as soon as possible. To avoid hantavirus infection, please call your nearest public health office for the Hantavirus Fact Sheet, or go to: www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/factsheets.html

TRAPPING GUIDE

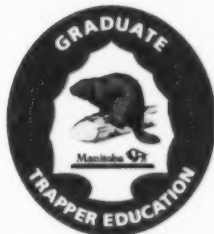
What should I do if bitten by a wild animal?

First wash the wound or exposed surface with soap and water. Then seek immediate medical advice from your doctor, nearest health facility or local public health unit. Misericordia Health Links can assist you in contacting public health services (seven days a week, 24 hours a day) at 788-8200 (Winnipeg) or 1-888-315-9257 (province-wide).

If you suspect any animal is rabid or you would like more information on rabies, contact your nearest Canadian Food Inspection Agency office. Their telephone numbers are located in the Government of Canada listings in your telephone book.

Some doctors may not be aware of the serious and perhaps life-threatening infections that can be transmitted to trappers by wildlife. Trappers should explain their contact with furbearers to the examining doctor. For more information on wildlife-caused diseases, please contact your local public health unit.

TRAPPER EDUCATION



Trapper education is an important part of furbearer management in Manitoba. Courses may be available on request and are usually two days or three evenings. Subject areas covered include:

- History of the Fur Trade
- Trapline Management
- Furbearer Biology
- Public Awareness
- Animal Rights
- Trapping Equipment
- Boarding (forming)
- Fur Marketing
- First Aid
- Humane Trapping
- Problem Animal Control Methods
- Furbearer Management
- Acts and Regulations
- Trapper Ethics
- Skinning
- Fur Grading
- Trap Research
- Video Presentations

For further information, please contact the nearest Manitoba Conservation district office or the Manitoba Trappers Association.

Mandatory Trapper Education

Any Manitoba resident wishing to obtain a trapping licence is required by regulation to satisfactorily complete the Trapper Education Course. If a Manitoba resident has previously held a trapping licence or permit from Manitoba or another province, he or she is not required to take this training. The mandatory trapper training is offered in two ways:

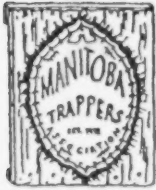
1. First-time trappers may borrow a manual from any Manitoba Conservation district office and complete a multiple-choice question examination. A passing mark of 80 per cent is required. If this is not achieved, a second examination may be written later.
 2. Attend a Trapper Education Course and then write the exam.
- Persons under the age of 14 must be accompanied by a licensed trapper when engaged in trapping activities in the field.

Trapper Responsibilities

Trapping is a privilege – not a right. Maintaining public acceptance of trapping as a legitimate job is the responsibility of trappers and resource managers. The trapper's responsibilities include the following:

- Take furbearers with the least amount of stress.
- Avoid capturing non-furbearing animals.
- Maintain a high degree of proficiency in pelt preparation.
- Use a kill-type trap to harvest marten, weasel, mink and muskrat when taken on land. Kill-type sets for otter and beaver should be fully submerged. When a squirrel is harvested, other than by snaring or shooting, a kill-type trap should be used.
- Use underwater sets wherever possible for aquatic species. Proper locks and slide wires set in a sufficient depth of water should be used on all hold and drown-type shore sets.
- Ensure that padded leghold traps set on land are secured to a drag of sufficient weight and strength.
- Ensure that neck snares set on land are equipped with proper locking devices.
- Inspect live-holding devices daily in the early morning. Make only as many sets as you can effectively manage.
- Identify trap and snare (power and conventional) "set locations" and carefully record them on a map.
- When trapping on private land, always ask permission and provide the landowner with a map showing the location and the types of traps and snares used.
- Know and use proper releasing and killing methods.
- Dispose of animal carcasses properly.
- Respect the rights and property of others and assist landowners with removal of problem wildlife.
- Encourage and support trapper education and public-awareness programs.
- Promptly report the presence of diseased animals to the nearest department office.
- Protect and conserve wildlife and its habitat.
- Respect and obey laws.

CO-OPERATING ORGANIZATIONS



Manitoba Trappers Association

The Manitoba Trappers Association (MTA) represents the interests of all trappers. Your involvement is important, and MTA gives provincial focus to trappers' concerns. The association needs committed members and the department encourages all trappers to

become active in their local affairs through a Local Fur Council (LFC). LFCs can play a vital role by bringing forward local concerns to the department. LFCs can, with the department, review applications for vacant registered traplines to ensure local traditions are taken into consideration during the review process.

For more information, please contact:

Manitoba Trappers Association
Box 518
Lac du Bonnet, MB R0E 1A0
Telephone: 204-345-9107 • Fax: 204-345-9170

The Canadian National Trappers Alliance

The Canadian National Trappers Alliance is Canada's only National Organization representing Canadian Trappers (CNTA). The CNTA maintains an active website for all trappers which can be found at www.trapper.ca



Fur Institute of Canada

The Fur Institute of Canada (FIC) is a non-profit organization supported by all sectors of the fur industry, including trappers, to promote conservation and optimum development of Canada's fur resources.



Since FIC was incorporated in 1983, it has:

- promoted a united effort by all sectors in resolving issues faced by the fur industry
- promoted standardization of trapper education programs in Canada
- developed and implemented national and international public education programs
- promoted the conservation of furbearing animals through increased knowledge of furbearer biology, behaviour and

habitat management, and played key roles in the reintroduction of fisher and marten into certain areas

- developed the most extensive trap research program in the world
- taken the leading role in the development of the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS)
- undertaken workshops in Manitoba to provide aboriginal trappers with information respecting the AIHTS

The trap research program has resulted in several traps being approved and certified as meeting the AIHTS. A complete list of the traps certified as meeting the standards is identified on page 17 of this guide.

For more information, please contact:

The Fur Institute of Canada
Suite 605 -130 Slater Street, Ottawa ON K1P 6E2
Telephone: 613-231-7099 Fax: 613-231-7940, www.fur.ca

HUMANE TRAPPING

Humane trapping is the taking of furbearers with the least amount of stress to the animal. **Trappers should select the most humane and efficient method possible to capture furbearers.**

Canada has the most humane trapping methods in the world. To ensure continued markets for our wild-caught fur, Canada, Russia and the European Union (EU) signed the *Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS)*. It sets performance standards for traps. These factors have kept trapping an acceptable and legitimate profession to the general public.

Manitoba regulations are meeting our obligations to the AIHTS. (See Manitoba Implementation Schedule on page 16).

What AIHTS means for Manitoba trappers:

- **AIHTS applies to almost all furbearers** trapped and those trappers who trap for commercial purposes in Manitoba (see Summary charts in English, Cree, and Ojibwe; pages 18-20).
- **Leghold Restraining Trap:**
 - **Modified versions include the padded, laminated and offset leghold restraining traps.**
 - Manitoba wildlife regulations **prohibit the use of all types of unmodified leghold traps on land** (see Summary charts on pages 19-21).
 - All types, when used in a drowning set, will be allowed until June 2007.
 - **Leghold Power Snare is not included** in the definition of a leghold trap, but is **prohibited** for black bear in all areas.
- **Neck Snares:**
 - **Power & Common Suspended:** Can be used underwater, but cannot be used to take black bear.

- **Common Suspended:** Trappers cannot use this snare to take or attempt to take any furbearer in Open Area Zones 1-5.
- 4 Body Grip Traps:** All of the Conibear-type, rotating-jaw traps that are currently being used are accepted until June 2007.
 - 5 After June 2007,** only those traps meeting AIHTS requirements will be allowed. If no traps are found to meet the standard, use of existing traps will be allowed while research continues.
 - 6** The requirements for a killing trap to meet the standard are the following:

In a compound test, the trap must render 80 per cent (10 of 12) of animals tested irreversibly unconscious within a time limit of:
 - 45 seconds for weasel
 - 120 seconds for marten
 - 300 seconds for all other species named in the AIHTS.
 - 7 Firearms** may be used to take furbearers, black bears and timber wolves. However, the use of firearms by trappers is subject to other regulations under *The Wildlife Act, The Provincial Parks Act*, local municipal by-laws, and federal acts.


MANITOBA IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE • INTERNATIONAL HUMANE TRAPPING STANDARDS (CANADA, RUSSIA AND EUROPEAN UNION)

The Canadian Wildlife Directors, Competent Authorities for implementation of the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS), have approved a 3-phase process for implementing the AIHTS in Canada. The lists below and on the following page show the three phases for regulating species-specific traps. The traps listed by name have all been **certified** as meeting the requirements of the AIHTS for specific species, through the Canadian trap-testing program administered by the Fur Institute of Canada.


SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENT

EFFECTIVE DATE	JUNE 2005	JUNE 2006	JUNE 2007	JUNE 2008	JUNE 2009	JUNE 2010	JUNE 2011
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Killing traps
(Conibear-type traps
currently used)

Authorized 

Modified leghold traps
eg. Rubber jaws

Authorized 


Foot snare

Authorized 


Unmodified
leghold trap
set on land

Prohibited as per
Manitoba regulation

Unmodified
leghold trap with
drowning system (kill-type)

Authorized 

Killing snares set on land
or under water and
submarine cages

No change 

BY SPECIES

Effective June 2007, only
traps certified
as meeting the standards, if
available on the market, will
be authorized.

The use of
all other traps
will then be prohibited. (1)



Certified trap models are given exclusive identification letters that manufacturers will have to mark on traps they manufacture in 2007 and beyond. Trappers may still legally use these same trap models after the implementation of the AIHTS (2007), regardless of whether they bear this mark.

Phase 1: Starting in Fall 2007 - Certified Traps to be regulated for trapping the following species:

SPECIES	KILLING TRAPS - CERTIFIED TRAPS TO BE REGULATED FOR USE IN FALL 2007T		
Beaver (on land and underwater)	Bélisle Classic 330 Bélisle Super X 280 Bélisle Super X 330 BMI 330 Body Gripper Bridger 330	LDL C 280 LDL C 330 Rudy 280 Rudy 330 Sauvageau 2001-11	Species-Specific 330 Dislocator Half-Magnum Species-Specific 440 Dislocator Half-Magnum Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 280 Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330
Beaver (underwater)	Duke 330	BMI 280 Body Gripper	Sauvageau 2001-8
Beaver (on land)	Sauvageau 1000 - 11F		
Fisher	Bélisle Super X 120 Bélisle Super X 160 Bélisle Super X 220	Koro #2 LDL C160 Magnum LDL C220 Magnum	Sauvageau 2001-5 Sauvageau 2001-8
Marten	Bélisle Super X 120 BMI 126 Magnum Body Gripper	LDL B120 Magnum Rudy 120 Magnum	Sauvageau C120 Magnum Sauvageau 2001-5
Muskrat (on land)	Bélisle Super X 120 BMI 120 BMI 120 Magnum BMI 126 Magnum	Bridger 120 LDL B120 Magnum Rudy 120 Magnum Sauvageau C120 Magnum	Sauvageau 2001-5 Triple M Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 110 Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 120
Muskrat (underwater)	Any jaw type trap (body gripping or leghold) set as a submersion set that exerts clamping force on a muskrat and that maintains a muskrat underwater.		
Raccoon	Bélisle Classic 220 Bélisle Super X 160 Bélisle Super X 220 BMI 160 Body Gripper BMI 220 Body Gripper Bridger 160 Bridger 220	Duke 220 LDL C 160 LDL C 220 LDL C 220 Magnum Rudy 160 Rudy 220	Sauvageau 2001-6 Sauvageau 2001-7 Sauvageau 2001-8 Species-Specific 220 Dislocator Half Magnum Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 160 Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 220

SPECIES	LEGHOLD RESTRAINING TRAPS - Certified Traps to be Regulated for use in Fall 2007		
Lynx	Bélisle Footsnare	Oneida Victor #3 Coil Spring equipped with 4 coil springs	Oneida Victor #3 equipped with a minimum of 8mm thick, non-offset steel jaws, 4 coil springs and an anchoring swivel centre mounted on a base plate
	Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch [®] equipped with 2 coil springs		

TRAPPING GUIDE

Phase 2 - Year of Implementation to be Determined - Certified Traps to be regulated after 2007 for trapping the following species:

Although the traps listed in Phase 2 are certified for the following species and trap categories, the year of entry into force of the obligation to use only AIHTS Certified traps **has not yet been determined**. This date, which could vary from one species to another, will be known at least 3 years in advance.

Until then, traps that are currently legally permitted can still be used.

Check with Manitoba Conservation for regulations related to trap uses applicable in your trapping area.

Killing Traps

SPECIES	TRAPS CERTIFIED BUT NOT MANDATORY FOR USE IN FALL 2007
Otter	Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330
Weasel	Victor Rat Trap
Lynx	Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330
Bobcat, Badger	No killing trap certified to date

Leghold Restraining Traps

SPECIES	TRAPS CERTIFIED BUT NOT MANDATORY FOR USE IN FALL 2007
Coyote	Bélisle Footsnare; Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 2 coil springs; Bridger #3 equipped with 5/16-inch offset, double rounded steel jaw laminations (3/16-inch topside of jaw and 1/4-inch on underside of jaws), with 4 coil springs and an anchoring swivel centre mounted on a base plate
Wolf	No leghold restraining trap certified to date
Bobcat	Bélisle Footsnare

Phase 3 - Year of Implementation to be Determined - Cage and Box Traps to be Regulated after 2007 for live-trapping the following species:

Live Capture Cages or Boxes

SPECIES	TRAPS CERTIFIED BUT NOT MANDATORY FOR USE IN FALL 2007
Beaver, Raccoon, Fisher, Marten, Muskrat, Otter, Weasel, Lynx, Bobcat, Badger	No live capture cage or box certified to date

This list will be updated as additional traps are certified. Please consult Manitoba Conservation on page 24, the Manitoba Trappers Association (page 15) or the Fur Institute of Canada (page 15).

THOMPSON FUR TABLE

The Thompson Fur Table was one of several such events initiated in late 1970s by provincial staff to provide northern trappers with a unique opportunity to get better prices for their raw pelts. The two-day Table is traditionally held a week or so before Christmas, and has had over 300 trappers attend. It has been the only such event in Canada and is now organized by the Manitoba Trappers Association.


Up to five licenced Manitoba fur dealers gather annually in one hall and inspect each trapper's lot of fur. Each dealer provides a quote for the lot and the trapper selects the best price. In this way, the trapper benefits from the on-site competitive demand for their furs.

The December timing of the Fur Table also allows families from all over the north to meet with distant friends, learn about new furbearer harvest and management techniques, and do some shopping before returning to their communities. Hundreds of thousands of dollars are injected into the local economy.

The next Thompson Fur Table will be held December 19 and 20, 2006. For more information on the Thompson Fur Table, please contact the Manitoba Trappers Association at 204-345-9107 or mta@mts.net.

TRAPPING GUIDE

SUMMARY OF USES OF LEGHOLD TRAPS AND SNARE DEVICES IN MANITOBA (Examples of various devices shown)









SPECIES	UNMODIFIED LEGHOLD RESTRAINING TRAP	MODIFIED LEGHOLD TRAP	COMMON SUSPENDED SNARE	POWER SNARE	LEGHOLD POWER SNARE
BADGER	Prohibited	Prohibited	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
BEAVER	Drowning set only*	Drowning set only*	RTL Zones & Drowning Set in Open Zones*	Allowed*	Allowed*
BLACK BEAR	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited
BOBCAT	Prohibited	Allowed*	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
COYOTE	Prohibited	Allowed*	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
FISHER	Prohibited	Prohibited	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
FOX (ALL)	Prohibited	Allowed	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
LYNX	Prohibited	Allowed*	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
MARTEN	Prohibited	Prohibited	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
MINK	Drowning set only*	Drowning set only*	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
MUSKRAT	Drowning set only*	Drowning set only*	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
OTTER	Drowning set only*	Drowning set only*	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
RACCOON	Prohibited	Prohibited	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
RED SQUIRREL	Prohibited	Prohibited	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
TIMBER WOLF	Prohibited	Allowed*	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
WEASELS (Long & Short-tailed)	Prohibited	Prohibited	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*
WOLVERINE	Prohibited	Prohibited	RTL Zones Only*	Allowed*	Allowed*

*Effective June 2007, only traps certified as meeting the standards, if available on the market, will be authorized (see Implementation Schedule on page 16).

**Examples only of modified leghold traps available commercially.

Refer to the "Trapping Regulations" section (page 7) of this guide for additional conditions of use and consult with your nearest Natural Resource Officer for additional information respecting trapping regulations.


WÍHTAMÁKÉWIN É-ISI APATAHKI WAN'IKANA AKWA NAKWÁKANA OHCI

					
TOWÍHKÁN AHTAY	NATO PÍWÁPISKO WANÍKAN	OSKI PÍWÁPISKO WANÍKAN	NATŌ NAKWÁKAN	WÉPAKWÁKAN	MISITOWI NAKWÁKAN
MISTANASK	namwác	namwác	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	—
AMISK	éhé nistápáwéwin poko*	éhé nistápáwéwin poko*	éhé, wanikéskanáhk nistápáwéwin kéhciwák ká isi páskiténikáték*	éhé*	—
KAHITÉWASKWA	namwác	namwác	namwác	namwác	namwác
PISIW (BOBCAT)	namwác	éhé*	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	—
APISTAHÍHKANÍS	namwác	éhé*	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	—
OCÉK	namwác	namwác	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	—
MAHKÉSIW	namwác	éhé	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	—
PISIW (LYNX)	namwác	éhé*	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	—
WÁPISTÁN	namwác	namwác	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	—
SÁKWÉSIW	éhé, nistápáwéwin poko*	éhé, nistápáwéwin poko*	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	—
WACASK	éhé, nistápáwéwin poko*	éhé, nistápáwéwin poko*	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	—
NIKIK	éhé, nistápáwéwin poko*	éhé, nistápáwéwin poko*	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	—
WÍNIPICÁP	namwác	namwác	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	—
ANIKWACÁS	namwác	namwác	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	—
MISTAHÍHKAN	namwác	éhé*	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	—
SIHKOSIW	namwác	namwác	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	—
OKÍHKWAYÁKÉW/OMINÁCÍS	namwác	namwác	éhé, wanikéskanáhk poko*	éhé*	—

*2007 askiy wáwi pisim (June), waníkana ká kí pákitinikátéki poko, kita kí ápatanwa.
(see Implementation Schedule on page 16).

Kinawapahta éyinánéw masinahikanékin ita ká wíhtamákek wanikéwi wanasiwéwin, akwa mína kakwécim okanawahtayéw kisáspín awasíme kí wí kiskenihtén.

AANIIN GEDAABAJICHIGAADEGIN WANII'IGANAN ZHIGWA NAGWAAGANAN

					
AWESIYAG	BIWAABIKO-WANII'IGANAN OKAADAAMAANG DESOOJIGEMAGAKIN	AYAANIICHIGAADEGIN BAKAAN WANII'IGANAN	NAGWAAGANAN	GAA-GASHKAABIKISEG NAGWAAGAN	GAA-GASHKAABIKISEG NAGWAAGAN OZIDAANG ONJI
MITANASK(WAG)	gaawiin	gaawiin	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	—
AMIK(WAG)	Anaamibiigi- wanii'iganan eta*	Anaamibiigi- wanii'iganan eta*	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng Anaamibiigi-wanii'iganan*	Miinange*	—
MAKADE-MAKWA(WAG)	gaawiin	gaawiin	gaawiin	gaawiin	gaawiin
GIDAGAABIZHIW(AG)	gaawiin	Miinange*	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	—
MECHAAGANISH(AG)	gaawiin	Miinange*	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	—
OJIG(AG)	gaawiin	gaawiin	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	—
WAAGOSH(AG)	gaawiin	Miinange	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	—
BIZHIW(AG)	gaawiin	Miinange*	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	—
WAABIZHESHI(WAG)	gaawiin	gaawiin	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	—
ZHAANGWESHI(WAG)	Anaamibiigi- wanii'iganan eta*	Anaamibiigi- wanii'iganan eta*	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	—
WAZHASHK(WAG)	Anaamibiigi- wanii'iganan eta*	Anaamibiigi- wanii'iganan eta*	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	—
NIGAG(WAG)	Anaamibiigi- wanii'iganan eta*	Anaamibiigi- wanii'iganan eta*	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	—
ESIBAN(AG)	gaawiin	gaawiin	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	—
AJDAMOO(G)	gaawiin	gaawiin	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	—
MA'INGAN(AG)	gaawiin	Miinange*	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	—
ZHINGOS(AG)	gaawiin	gaawiin	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	—
GWIINGWA'AGE(G)	gaawiin	gaawiin	Gaa-bagidiniweng ji-wanii'igeng etago*	Miinange*	—

*June 2007 da-maajise, iniwen eta wani'iganan gaa-bagidiniweng da-aabajichigaadewan apii wani'igeng.
(see Implementation Schedule on page 16).

Inaabin "Wani'iganiwi-Onashowe Mazina'iganing" ani-nishwaasowi-maziniiganing aaniin ge-gashkitooyamban geizhichigeyamban. Gemaa gaye ganoonzh 'awe Natural Resource Officer gaa-izhinikaazod ji-wiindamaag wegonen ge-gashkitooyamban wani'igeyan.

THE REGISTERED TRAPLINE SYSTEM AND THE LINEHOLDER

What is a "RTL"?

The Registered Trapline (RTL for short) System is a unique conservation method whereby a person, the "lineholder," is granted the exclusive opportunity to harvest furbearing animals in a certain area, the "RTL line." The system ensures sustainable furbearer populations by controlling the number of trappers in that area and making the lineholder the steward of the resource. Some RTL sections are called "blocks," as no individual lines exist and all eligible community members may use the block.

Why is it important?

By the 1940s, trapping was out of control in northern Manitoba and furbearing animal numbers had been badly depleted. Part of the reason was the large influx of new people into the north with the building of the rail line to Churchill. Animals were also being taken without regard for the time of year or their populations.

More tragically, local people (mostly First Nations) who had been trapping on the land for generations saw their traditional livelihoods threatened. At the request of the communities, Manitoba created the RTL system to allow local people to continue trapping on their traditional lands and at the same time make them stewards of their traplines. From the original RTLs created around the communities of Thicket Portage and Pikwitonei, the system has grown to a total of 46 community-based "sections" each with a varying number of individual lines.

Why is it even more important today?

When a RTL section was created by the community/First Nations trappers themselves, it usually also represented the traditional lands used by a community and defined those boundaries legally for the first time. These boundaries now form the basis for many major land-use projects around those communities (such as the Northern Flood Agreement management areas and the Poplar-Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve).

RTL trappers themselves are often the best sources of natural history information (traditional knowledge), as they are on the land more often than are most other people. It comes at a time when this information is constantly needed to track not just furbearing animals, but big game and the health of habitats.

How can I get an RTL line?

Lines cannot be sold, inherited, or handed down. They are awarded through competitions held in co-operation between the local trapping organization and Manitoba Conservation. Decisions are made through a scoring process, whereby a **varying number of points are given to applicants based, among other things, on:**

- family relationship to the previous lineholder
- their recent fur harvest history with that trapline or one in the same section
- their residency in relationship to the trapline being allocated

The process maintains a balance by recognizing that local residents have preferential access to RTL lines, but also by being flexible in allowing trappers from other communities an opportunity to compete for a line.

What does it mean to be a RTL lineholder?

Allocation of a RTL line is a significant event. When you are a lineholder, you have the exclusive opportunity to:

- harvest the fur resource on that line
- establish a cabin in most cases on your line for trapping purposes
- have a helper to assist you in your efforts
- manage a valuable natural resource

What are the lineholder's obligations?

Some RTL lines are in great demand, and **it is unfair to others if a lineholder is not exercising the privilege that they have been given.** Lines can be re-allocated if not used.

Lineholders have responsibilities that include:

- using the resource that has been allocated
- ensuring that your actions do not jeopardize furbearer populations
- upgrading your trapping techniques to maximize your pelt value
- voicing your opinions and concerns to your local organization and to Manitoba Conservation
- updating traps according to the latest humane standards
- ensuring any improvements such as cabins have the proper permits

What kind of cabin can be built?

A lineholder can build a main cabin and a certain number of line cabins, depending upon the location and size of their line. All lineholders are bound by the regulations set out in *The Wildlife Act* and other acts. Permits are required for cabins and are issued only in the name of the lineholder.

Record keeping and the RTL

All trappers should keep annual records of their activity through the trapping season, including when and where sets are placed, the

dates and locations of where animals were caught, and when improvements when done on the line.

Records are an important tool in trapline management. Trappers can assess the relative abundance of animals over the years and judge when to "leave" an area for a season. Your own records will verify your activity on a line should you be eligible for compensation for disaster or mitigation programs. Records will also confirm that you are actually exercising the privilege of having a trapline.

When a trapper no longer holds a RTL line, permission for them to have the cabin ends and they have no legal right to keep it in place. Incoming lineholders are under no obligation to buy any improvements on the line, such as a cabin. As such, a trapping cabin

should be built at low cost with the thought in mind that, if an incoming lineholder does not want to purchase it, the cabin would have to be removed.

The ability to erect a trapper cabin is a unique privilege afforded only to the lineholders. Use of a trapping cabin for purposes other than trapping, without prior approval, is not allowed (e.g., unauthorized outfitting).

How do I learn more about the RTL System?

Administration of the RTL System is set out through *The Wildlife Act* of Manitoba and its regulations and through the Furbearer Management Policy. Copies are available from any Manitoba Conservation office. The Policy sets out guidelines and procedures for all trapping activities in Manitoba.



Caption: Lynx pelts are examined by fur grader Bill Gall, Conservation Officer Vic McNabb, Provincial Trapping Coordinator Bob Burns, and trappers Jimmy Woods and John Woods. Lynx reached their peak values in the mid-1970s and 1980s, and are still a prized species.

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

Manitoba Conservation Offices

RED RIVER REGION

Manitou – Box 10, ROG 1G0 • 242-2950
Portage la Prairie – 25 Tupper St. N, R1N 3K1 • 239-3204
Steinbach – Box 2019, R5G 1N6 • 346-6110
Winnipeg – Box 30, 200 Saulteaux Cres., R3J 3W3 • 945-7273

INTERLAKE REGION

Ashern – Box 410, ROC 0E0 • 768-2368
Birds Hill – Box 183, R.R. 2, Dugald, ROE 0K0 • 654-6730
Gimli – Box 6000, ROC 1B0 • 642-6070
Grand Beach – Box 220, ROE 0T0 • 754-5040
Gypsumville – Box 9, ROC 1J0 • 659-5208
Hodgson – Box 119, ROC 1N0 • 372-6296
Lundar – Box 10, ROC 1Y0 • 762-5229
Riverton – Box 70, ROC 2R0 • 378-2261
Selkirk – 1 Keystone Drive, R1A 2H5 • 785-5080
Winnipeg Beach – Box 388, ROC 3G0 • 389-2752

EASTERN REGION

Beausejour – Box 50, 20 First St. S., ROE 0C0 • 268-6184
Bissett – Box 108, ROE 0J0 • 277-5212
Falcon Lake – Box 40, ROE 0N0 • 349-2201
Hadashville – Box 17, ROE 0X0 • 426-5313
Lac du Bonnet – Box 850, ROE 1A0 • 345-1400
Pine Falls – Box 389, ROE 1M0 • 367-6130
Rennie – ROE 1R0 • 369-5246
Seven Sisters – Box 9, ROE 1Y0 • 348-4004
Sprague – Box 70, ROA 1Z0 • 437-2348
West Hawk Lake – Box 119, ROE 2H0 • 349-2245

1-800-214-6497

For more information on this and other wildlife programs,
call this toll-free number or 945-6784 in Winnipeg or go to:
www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/wildlife

WESTERN REGION

Boissevain – Box 820, ROK 0E0 • 534-2028
Brandon – 1129 Queens Ave., R7A 1L9 • 726-6441
Carberry – Box 900, ROK 0H0 • 834-8800
Dauphin – Box 10, 27-2nd Ave. SW, R7N 3E5 • 622-2106
Grandview – Box 156, ROL 0Y0 • 546-5000
Killarney – Box 1420, ROK 1G0 • 523-5200
Mafeking – Box 27, ROL 1B0 • 545-2263
McCreary – Box 128, ROJ 1B0 • 835-2806
Neepawa – Box 1089, ROJ 1H0 • 476-2076
Roblin – Box 849, ROL 1P0 • 937-2181
Shoal Lake – Box 416, ROJ 1Z0 • 759-4080
Swan River – Box 640, ROL 1Z0 • 734-3429
Virden – Box 1360, ROM 2C0 • 748-4240
Winnipegosis – Box 366, ROL 2G0 • 656-4871

NORTHEASTERN REGION

Churchill – Box 760, ROB 0E0 • 675-8897
Cross Lake – Box 119, Cross Lake, ROB 0J0 • 676-2193
Gillam – Box 429, ROB 0L0 • 652-2273
Gods Lake Narrows – General Delivery, ROB 0M0 • 335-2366
Island Lake – Box 69, Stevenson Island, ROB 2H0 • 456-2362
Leaf Rapids – Box 430, ROB 1W0 • 473-8133
Lynn Lake – Box 239, ROB 0W0 • 356-2413
Nelson House – Box 199, ROB 1A0 • 484-4220
Norway House – Box 100, ROB 1B0 • 359-6877
Oxford House – Box 262, ROB 1C0 • 538-2248
Pukatawagan – Box 22, ROB 1G0 • 553-2091
South Indian Lake – General Delivery, ROB 1N0 • 374-2203
Split Lake – General Delivery, ROB 1P0 • 342-2291
Thompson – Box 28, 59 Elizabeth Dr., R8N 1X4 • 677-6640
Wabowden – Box 40, ROB 1S0 • 689-2688

NORTHWESTERN REGION

Cranberry Portage – Box 130, ROB 0H0 • 472-3331
Flin Flon – Rm. 203 Prov. Bldg., 143 Main St., R8A 1K2 • 687-1640
Grand Rapids – Box 322, ROC 1E0 • 639-2241
Snow Lake – Box 339, ROB 1M0 • 358-2521
The Pas – Box 2550, R9A 1M4 • 627-8287